

A Message from the President ...

Community Colleges in 2000? 2010? 2020?



Dr. Martha Allen

As I have scanned the journal articles, conference announcements, and advertising literature which fills my mailbox and piles up on my desk, I am excited and overwhelmed by trying to "catch the vision." Technology megaleaps, international markets, new paradigms of what constitutes a workplace, synchronous and asynchronous (or is it nonsynchronous) communication, World Wide Web, CD-ROM, IVN, ITTV, restructuring and merging, continuous calendars, "studio" classroom, performance-based funding and creative financing are a part of the educational landscape today.

With unbelievable speed, cyberspace has added a new dimension to our vision of two-year colleges. The assumption could not have been more valid: educational access for students of any age, anytime, anywhere. Just one initiative -- the Distance Instruction for Adult Learning (DIAL) established with a 1994 grant from the U.S. Department of Education -- has over 500 students enrolled from 36 states and 17 countries with 350 adjunct faculty. In the future, it is likely that a

shrinking number of students will seek both the social and educational experiences most campuses of today provide. Future increases in enrollment will be students taking classes at work or at home, coming to campus infrequently for assessment and guidance.

I'm comforted by the idea that a realistic vision of two-year colleges over the next 20 years may be more like the images seen through a kaleidoscope: everchanging but with endless possibilities. There is no longer doubt that technology, once only a possibility, will lead the way. But what role will we play? A recent *America's Best Colleges* article describes faculty of the future as "guides on the side, rather than sages on the stage." In fact, all of us -- faculty, staff, and administrators -- will become a collective body of guides on the side, seeking input from each other and from other training and education entities throughout the world, integrating educational offerings provided by a variety of sources, tracking and counseling students through a lifetime of educational and employment experiences.

Everchanging. Endless possibilities. The Alabama College System. The Alabama College Association. It is a privilege for me to work with this 1997 ACA Executive Committee, Interest Chairs, Vice Chairs, and the membership throughout the state. I have been amazed over the past seven years with the number of individuals working with ACA who volunteer time and creative talent to make each annual convention a reality. But remember, we are truly your "guides on the side" soliciting your ideas and suggestions to ensure that this convention represents a collective vision. Call us or write us today.

The Alabama College Association Journal is a publication of the Alabama College Association.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. Martha Allen
President

Dr. Brenda J. Kennedy
Vice President/President Elect

Dr. Mike Bailey
Second Vice President

Ms. Mary Lee Radney
Secretary

Mr. Phil Bain
Treasurer

Dr. Ed Meadows
Immediate Past President

Ms. Connie Branch
Parliamentarian

Ms. Betty Marks
Historian

Dr. Cathy McDonald
Administration Chair

Mr. Mark Shope
Administration Vice Chair

Dr. Elsa C. Price
Faculty Chair

Mr. Randall Cox
Faculty Vice Chair

Ms. Mary Q. Taylor
Students Chair

Ms. Sundra Smith
Students Vice Chair

Ms. Mary Andry
Support Chair

Rep. Betty Carol Graham
Legislative Chair

Dr. Gary Branch
Entertainment Chair

Dr. Jorge Kuzmicic
Postsecondary Representative

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Dr. Jim Krudop
Executive Assistant to the President

Dr. Nancy Chandler
Assignment Coordinator

Ms. Betty Marks
Conference Registration

Ms. June Hester
Door Prize Coordinator

Mr. Roger Chandler
Door Prize Coordinator

Ms. Barbara Anne Spears
Publications

Dr. Eva Sasser
Assistant Journal Editor

Dr. Carolyn Johnson
Assistant Journal Editor

Ms. Deborah Schaus
Exhibits Coordinator

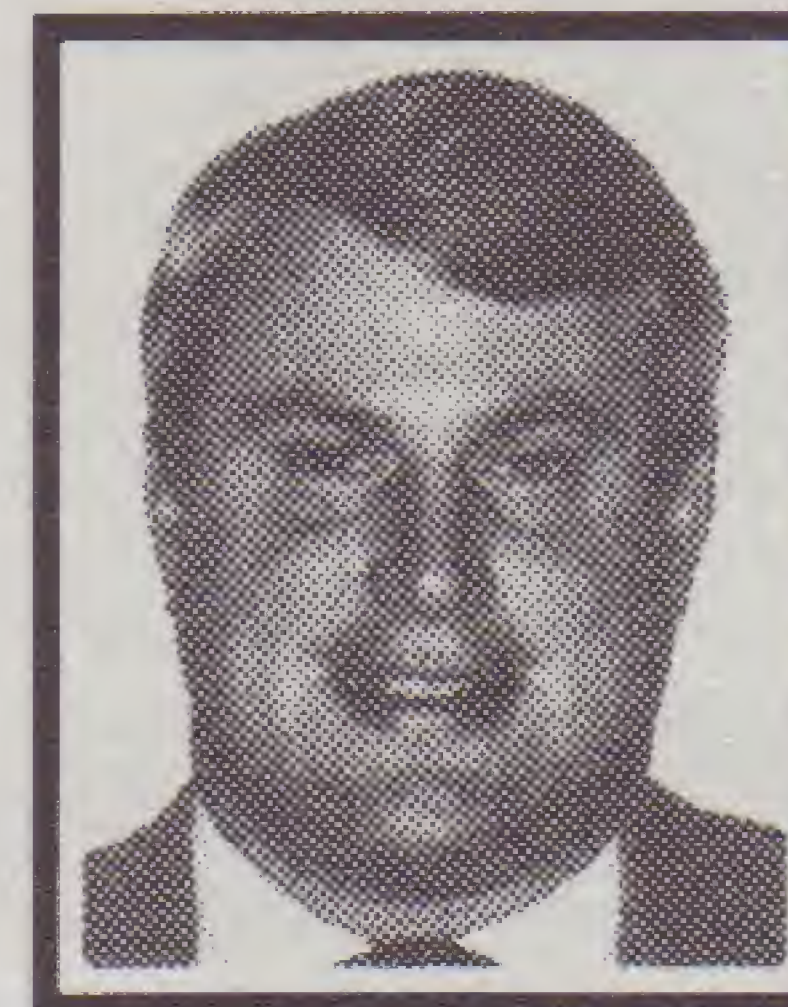
Ms. Marthanne Brown
Food Services Coordinator

1997 ACA Officers, Ex-Officio Members



Allen

Dr. Martha Allen, president, is dean of instruction at Central Alabama Community College. She is a member of the Board of Directors of the Center for Textile and Apparel Technology and has served on the Governor's State Textile and Apparel Team. In 1994-95 she served as president of the Instructional Officers Association.



Bain

Phillip E. Bain, CPA, treasurer, is dean of financial affairs of Harry M. Ayers State Technical College. He is a member of the advisory board of the Business Department of the Oxford High Vocational School.



Kennedy

Dr. Brenda J. Kennedy, vice president/president-elect, is dean of student development at Faulkner State Community College. Her past positions include psychologist at Partlow State School and Hospital, counselor for the circuit court juvenile division in Mobile, and director of student personnel services at Faulkner State University.



Meadows

Dr. Ed Meadows, immediate past president, is president of Ayers State Technical College. He was formerly vice president of Beville State Community College and co-chairs the Symposium on Teaching and Learning.



Bailey

Dr. Mike Bailey, second vice president, is president of Bessemer State Technical College. He was awarded the Distinguished Leadership Award in 1993 by the Alabama Association of College Administrators/Alabama Association of Women in Education and named Outstanding Vocational Educator for Postsecondary Education in 1990.



C. Branch

Connie Branch, parliamentarian, is dean of student development at Jefferson Davis Community College. She was 1995 recipient of the Chancellor's Award for Outstanding College Administrator.



Marks

Betty Marks, historian and coordinator for registration, is director of promotions and publication at Athens State College. She has also served as coordinator of the Chancellor's Awards since 1985.



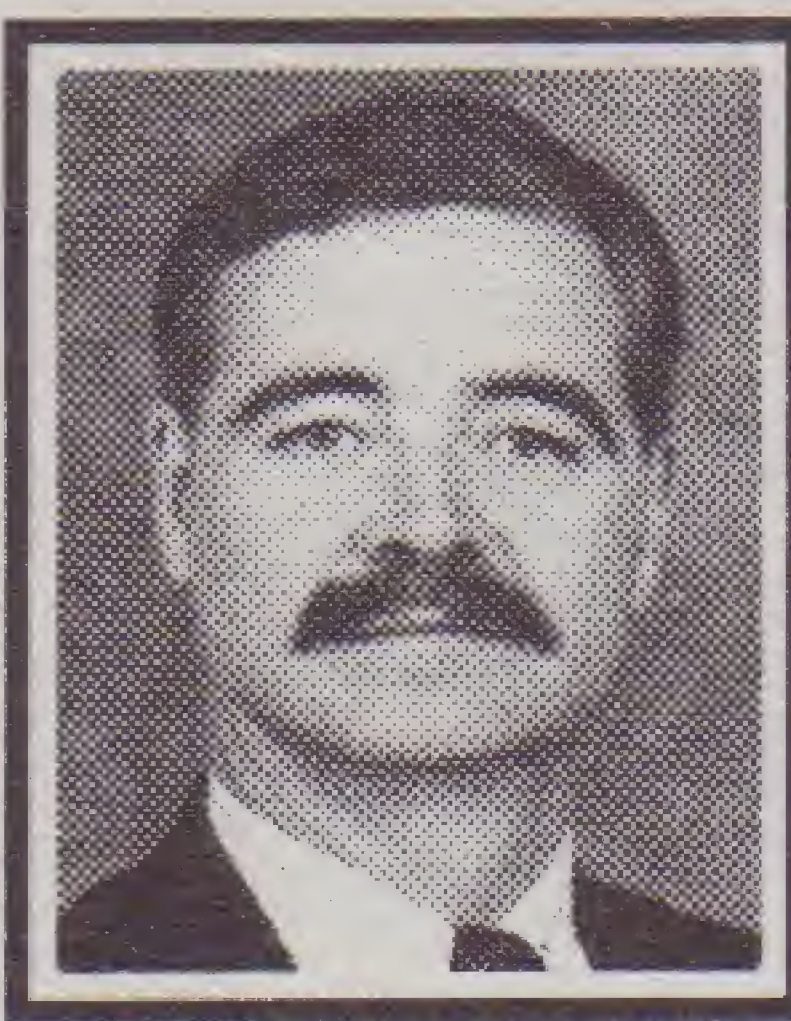
Radney

Mary Lee Radney, secretary, is an administrative secretary at Central Alabama Community College. She serves as a member of the Advisory Council of the Retired Senior Volunteer program, a member of the Russell Hospital Auxiliary, and as a member of the Tallapoosa County Advisory Board for the American Heart Association.



McDonald

Dr. Cathryn McDonald, administration chair, is associate dean of instruction at Jefferson State Community College. She has served as science division chair and assistant dean of academic services and assessment.



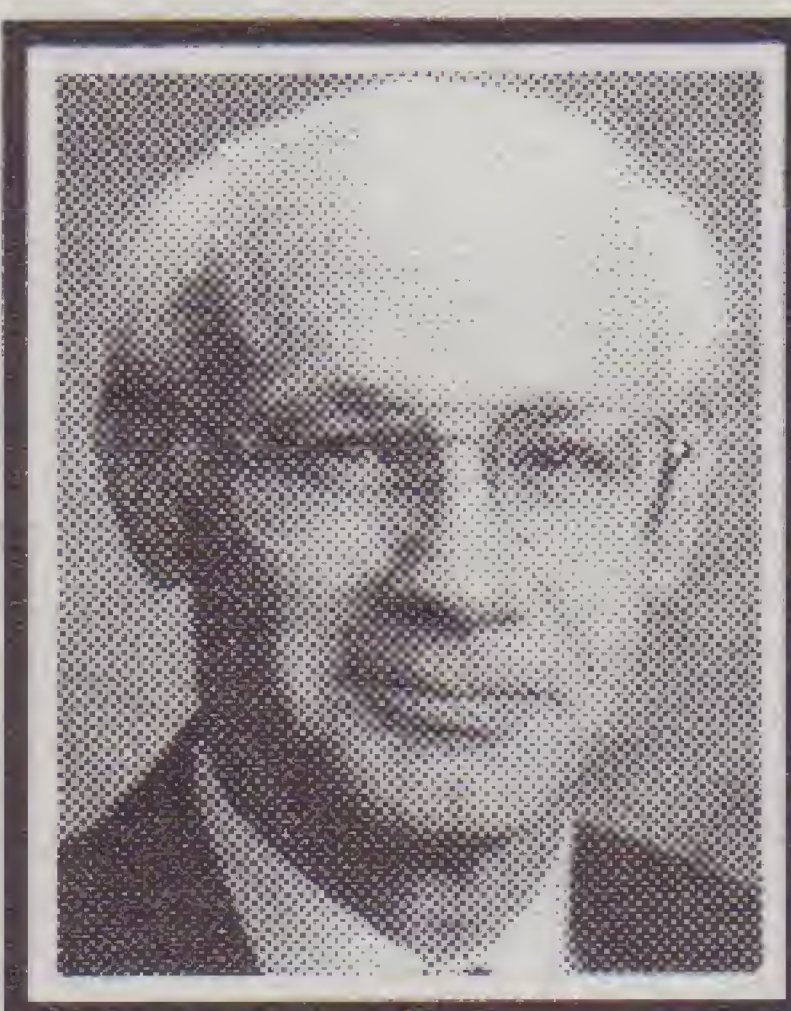
Shope

Mark L. Shope, administration vice chair, is dean of students at Wallace State Community College in Dothan. He also serves as president of the Alabama Deans of Student Affairs Association.



Price

Dr. Elsa C. Price, faculty chair, is an instructor at George C. Wallace State Community College in Dothan. She has been teaching general biology, anatomy and physiology, and microbiology since 1973.



Cox

Randall L. Cox, faculty vice chair, is a chemistry instructor and chairman of the Natural Sciences Division at Calhoun Community College. He was previously a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army.



Taylor

Mary Q. Taylor, students chair, is an admissions vocational counselor at Bishop State Community College. She holds a degree in practical nursing, bachelor's and master's degrees and has completed further studies.



Smith

Sundra S. Smith, students vice chair, is director of job placement at Bessemer State Technical College. She received a B.S. from Tuskegee Institute and a master's from Southern Illinois University.



Andry

Mary Elizabeth Andry, support chair, is an instructor at the Thelma McMillian Kennedy Early Childhood Education Centre at Bishop State Community College. She has 30 years of experience in the field.



Graham

Betty Carol Graham, legislative chair, is dean of student enrollment services at Central Alabama Community College. In the Alabama House of Representatives, she serves on the Education, Health and Judiciary committees.



G. Branch

Dr. Gary Branch, entertainment chair, is president of Faulkner State Community College. He has twice received the Most Distinguished College President in the Nation award from Phi Theta Kappa.



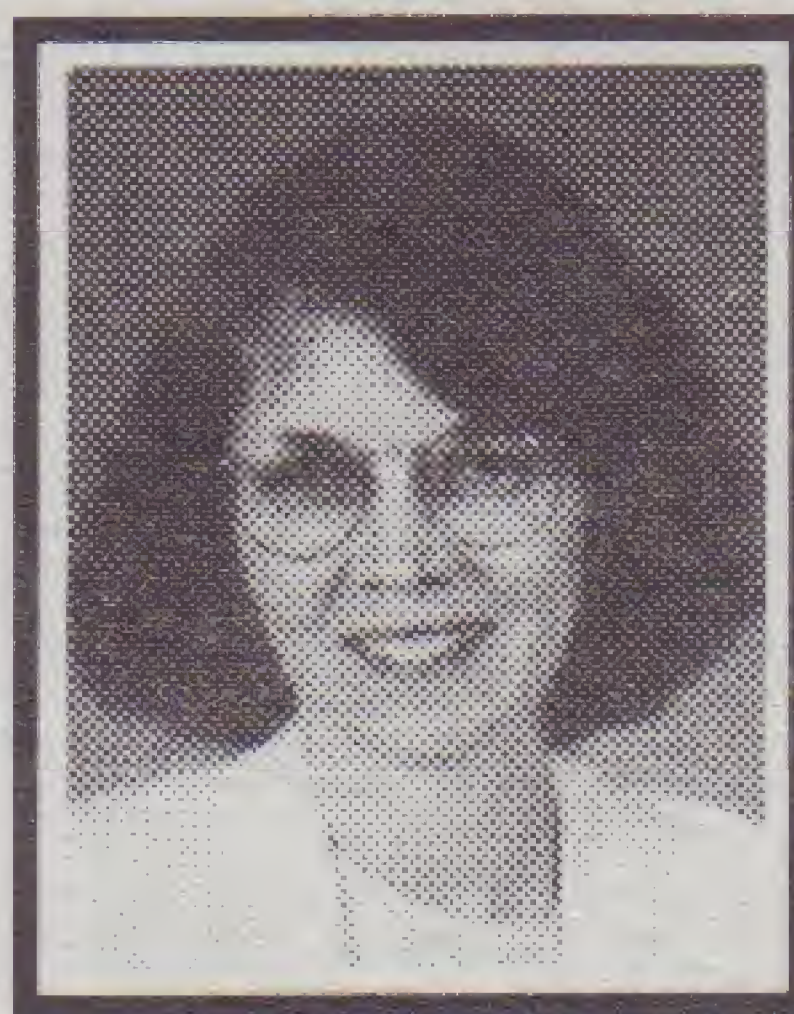
Kuzmicic

Dr. Jorge Kuzmicic, postsecondary representative, is vice chancellor for instructional and student services at the Department of Postsecondary Education. He served 24 years at Calhoun State.



Krudop

Dr. Jim Krudop, executive assistant to the president, is dean of the college at Lurleen B. Wallace Jr. College. He chaired the ACA committee which opened membership to all system institutions.



N. Chandler

Dr. Nancy Chandler, assignment coordinator, is dean of instruction, institutional effectiveness and development at Faulkner State Community College. She earned an Ed.D. from Auburn University.



Hester

June Hester, door prize coordinator, is an accounts payable clerk in the business office of Northwest-Shoals Community College, Shoals campus. She has been involved with ACA for five years.



Spears

Barbara Anne Spears, publications, is development officer, public information officer and speech instructor at Central Alabama Community College. She was previously a journalist for a local newspaper.



Sasser

Dr. Eva K. Sasser, assistant journal editor, is a counselor at Alabama Aviation and Technical College, where she has been employed 14 years. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Alabama.



Johnson

Dr. Carolyn Johnson, assistant journal editor, is dean of development at Beville State Community College. She was employed in 1975 as a related English instructor and was ACA administration chair last year.



Schaus

Deborah Schaus, exhibits coordinator, is coordinator of recruiting at Athens State College. She has been involved in ACA for 11 years, with exhibits doubling during the past three years under her direction.



Brown

Marthanne Brown, food services coordinator, is an English instructor and coordinator of community literary programs at Beville State Community College. She served as ACA faculty chair last year.

Hawsey attends annual meeting

Vicki Hawsey, acting dean, Reid State Technical College, was one of more than 400 delegates to the second annual meeting of the Council on Occupational Education, held in New Orleans Nov. 30-Dec. 4, 1996, at the Fairmont Hotel.

Hawsey attended policy-making sessions as well as workshops where strategies for the improvement of workforce preparation were discussed. The delegates discussed such issues as quality assurance, maintaining accreditation standards and policies appropriate to emerging technology requirements, and effectively evaluating results of education and training.

The Council is a national agency that accredits military, federal agency, public and private career, corporate, and non-profit occupational education and training providers as well as Job Corps Centers across the nation. The Council is the successor to the Commission on Occupational Education Institutions, a regional accrediting body formerly affiliated with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

The Accrediting Commission of the Council is recognized by U.S. Secre-



Hawsey

tary of Education Richard Riley as an agency which assures quality of education. Recognition by Secretary Riley affords many member institutions the opportunity to serve deserving students who receive federal loans and grants to support their education. The Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation also recognizes the Accrediting Commission of the Council as a national accrediting agency for workforce preparation institutions.

Conference motivates PR director

Debra Jordan, director of public relations and marketing at Northeast Alabama Community College in Rainsville, attended the Professional Development for Women Conference conducted by the Clemson University Office of Professional Development on Dec. 2, 1996, at the Wynfrey Hotel in Birmingham.

The keynote address was given by Edie Raether, change strategist, and was entitled "Kick Your Dreams into Action." Her presentation included turning positive feelings into powerful action; motivating the unmotivated; and developing success strategies, vision, purpose and beliefs that lead to change and personal empowerment.

Other impact presenters included Susan Wise, president of Wise Consulting, with the best ways to advance your career and goals; and Judy Marston, owner of Marston and Associates, with "10 Traits of a True Professional" -- powerful strategies that help incorporate life-changing characteristics into your life.

Students benefit from instructor's workshop experience

Susanne E. DeBrule recently attended the joint fall meeting of the Texas Sections of the American Association of Physics Teachers and the American Physical Society with Zone 13 of the Society of Physics Students. This joint meeting was held at the University of Texas at Arlington in Arlington, Texas.

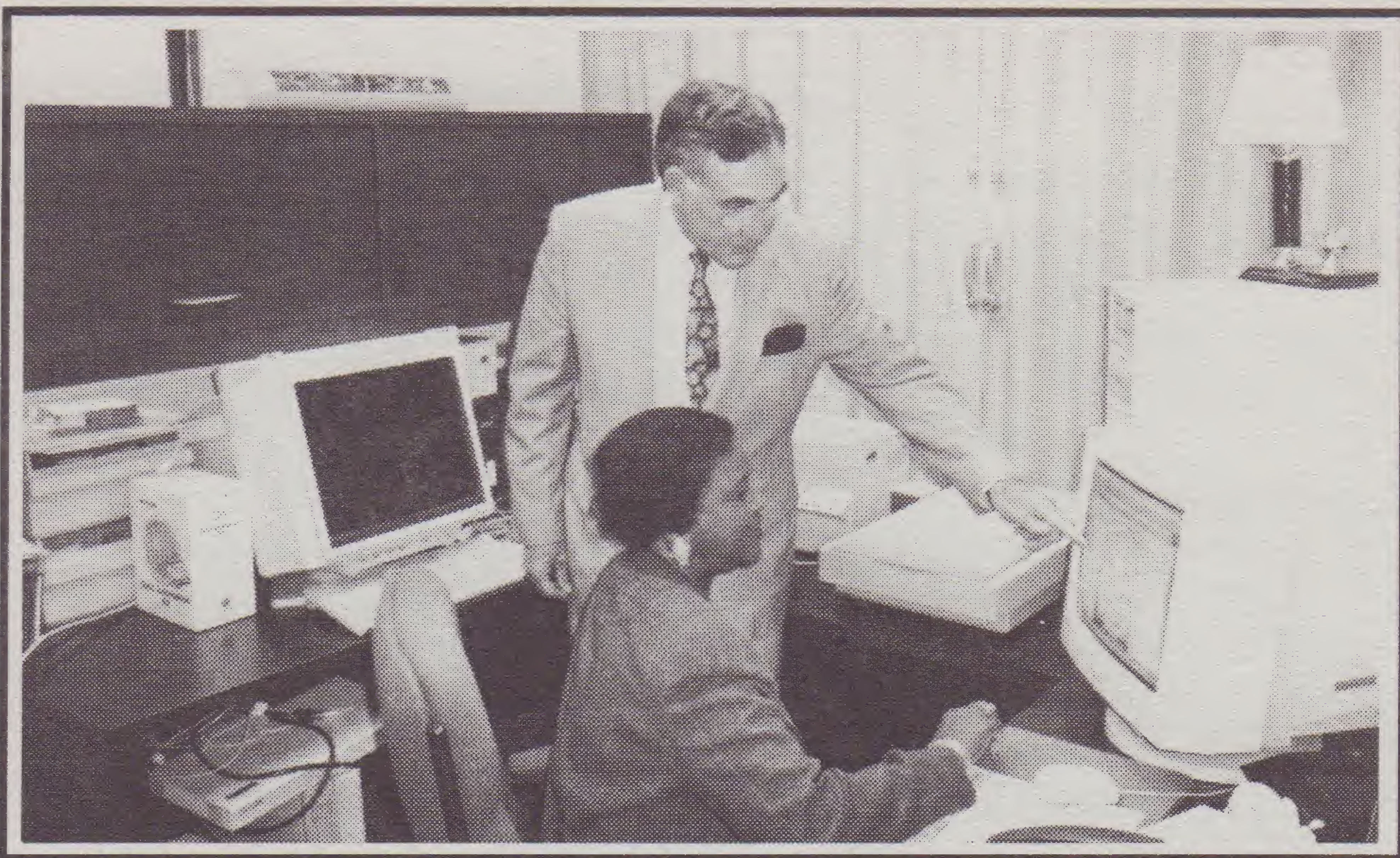
The fall meeting was the second part of a two-year program sponsored by Texas A&M University, Lee College, the National Science Foundation, and Faulkner State Community College. This program is directed by Robert Beck Clark of Texas A&M University and

Thomas L. O'Kuma of Lee College in Baytown, Texas.

The meeting brought together two-year college educators from 16 states and Puerto Rico to discuss the recent findings in physics education research, to discuss applying modern physics topics to the introductory physics curriculum, and to develop curriculum which will help two-year college students better understand physics. The program will provide Mrs. DeBrule with the latest information and techniques that can be used to help physics students at Faulkner State Community College obtain a better understanding of physics.

DeBrule had the opportunity to attend a number of the 13 workshops offered, to listen to some of the more than 230 papers presented, to discuss and exchange ideas on teaching physics, and to attend special sessions on nuclear physics, particle physics, astrophysics, and the philosophy and teaching of physics.

The results of DeBrule's participation in this program are being seen already in the physics classes on the campus of Faulkner State. Innovative teaching techniques, vibrant presentations, and increasing motivation among students are some of the new dimensions in physics classes at Faulkner.



Jack Ravan, director of Alabama State Docks, demonstrates equipment package to Dr. Yvonne Kennedy, BSCC president Bishop State receives gift of equipment

Computer equipment once belonging to Alabama State Docks in Mobile has been put to good use at Bishop State Community College. The equipment is being used to enhance the college's Division of Continuing Education and Economic Development's capabilities within its Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC), said the division's director, Dr. Conrad Smith. EPIC serves as

an Environmental Protection Agency-Gulf of Mexico communication hub on data information related to environmental issues using a geographic information system software package.

Bishop State has the Alabama College System's only Geographic Information System (GIS) certificate program, which will now have at its disposal the use of two GIS software programs.

CACC golf coach earns top honor

The golf program at Central Alabama Community College received an award in Orlando in January at the Golf Coaches Association of America conference, which was held in conjunction with the PGA merchandise show.

Dick Sbybey, president of the GCAA and head golf coach at the University of Alabama, presented the 1996 Golf Coach of the Year award to Maxie Boles, coach of the defending NJCAA golf champions, Central Alabama Community College.

Partnership links North Alabama with world

The Limestone County Video Conference Center opened its doors in November.

The center, funded by the Tennessee Valley Authority, is part of a pilot project introducing the area to information age telecommunications and computer technology. Each county in the Elk River Development Watershed has been given the opportunity to participate in the Tennessee Rural Application Center

(TRAC) project.

The center, located in the Carter Center at Athens State, contains \$85,000 in telecommunications equipment and has \$30,000 in funds to educate and train the partners on the uses of the center. The facility allows instruction to be obtained from or delivered to a remote destination. The real-time video and audio permits two-way interactive communication from the site.

Decatur benefits from partnership

Officials with Calhoun Community College, Leon Sheffield Elementary School in Decatur, and Decatur City Schools have begun a pilot project to improve reading levels among grade K-3 students. The project, part of President Clinton's "America Reads" Challenge, represents a cooperative arrangement where students from the college employed through its Federal Work Study (FWS) program will serve as tutors to students at the elementary school.

Last fall, President Clinton signed legislation increasing funding to the FWS program. According to Dr. Gary Green, executive vice president for Calhoun, the college received a \$100,000 supplement to its FWS funding for the 1996-97 fiscal year to be used exclusively for funding work study slots dedicated to community service. The increase will also finance partnerships between Calhoun and NASA, the U.S. Army Missile Command and several local non-profit agencies.

College links TVA to local schools

School children of Northwest Alabama will gain access to computer assisted education much earlier because of a partnership created by Northwest-Shoals Community College joining the Tennessee Valley Authority with area school systems and the college.

The project permits TVA to provide surplus computer equipment to Northwest-Shoals Community College for use in K-12 schools. Northwest-Shoals students repair equipment needing minor work and upgrade machines by cannibalizing parts. Area school systems demonstrating a need have the machines placed in labs established by staff from both the school systems and the college.

Larry Gullett, director of community relations communications for TVA, said the program is "partnership at its best."

AIDT helps Mercedes suppliers benefit through alliance

Two heads are better than one. This adage often proves true, and for several companies in central and west-central Alabama, this attitude toward training is providing big advantages to all. The companies recently formed a training alliance to pool resources, knowledge, and needs in an effort to maximize training payoff.

The alliance includes companies in the Tuscaloosa and Birmingham areas which supply the new Mercedes Benz U.S. International, Inc., manufacturing plant in Vance. Current members are Delphi Packard in Cottondale; ZF Industries in Tuscaloosa; Johnson Controls, Inc. in Cottondale; Oris Automotive in Bessemer; Ogiyara America in Birmingham; and T & WA in Boligee.

Suppliers in Prattville, Cullman, and Huntsville will be invited to join the alliance this year.

Managers from each company meet monthly to review training needs. Training is designed and developed to address the needs considered most critical to the group.

Existing training that meets the pinpointed training needs is scheduled immediately. AIDT helps develop other training programs not readily available.

Plans are to establish a central point of connection to track all internal training at each facility. This communication link will allow each company to place employees in training conducted at other companies.

This cooperative approach to training results in several benefits. First, it provides more training for the team members at each company. Second, it increases the availability of training. For example, employees at any company in

the alliance may attend training at any other alliance partner facility instead of waiting until the same training can be scheduled at their own plant. A third benefit to alliance members is elimination of duplicate training. Finally, companies save money by sharing the cost of training.

All training objectives were met in November, 1996. AIDT conducted a 3-hour fluid power training session, a 32-hour Zenger Miller instructor certification seminar and a 14-hour team leader/facilitator training program.

Classes were held in February for Allen Bradley PLC 5 maintenance training and AIDT's Concepts of Management seminar.

The group is also looking at information-sharing opportunities in common areas of interest such as employment law, OSHA concerns, ISO 9000 and others.



Photo by Paul Sellers

Excitement builds as new campus nears completion

Shelton moves into final phase of building project

Almost three years after the official ground breaking, Shelton State will complete its new facility in July. The new campus, which is located on 170 acres of land off Highway 69 South in Tuscaloosa, is approximately five miles from the existing main campus.

The first phase, which was completed during summer 1996, houses the college's technical programs, gymnasium, wellness center, and nursing programs. Also included were the diesel, welding, and trucking driving departments.

Several programs have already moved during the year as their part of the facility was completed. The remainder of the college will move during the summer as part of Phase II, and fall semester classes will be offered on the new campus.

This second phase will hold the administrative offices, faculty offices, library services, student services, bookstore, academic programs, fine arts, child development center, commercial art and graphics and printing commu-

nications, a theater and dining facilities. Also included on the site will be two lakes, athletic fields, and a bicycle and walking track.

With the completion of the new Mercedes Benz plant in Vance, Shelton's new campus construction becomes the largest building project in Alabama. The cost of the new campus is more than \$44 million and is being financed through the sale of two former campuses, as well as through bonds, state and federal grants, and a capital campaign.

NASA brings resource center to Lawson State

Lawson State Community College served as the only host site in Alabama when they recently presented the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Mobile Teachers Resource Center (MTRC) workshop.

Operated by NAFEO Services, the MTRC is a teacher resource center on-wheels that travels around the country. The MTRC is a self-contained NASA resource facility designed to provide teacher enhancement workshops in locations that are often remotely located from NASA'S network of teacher resource centers and regional teacher resource centers.

The facility is further designed to support in-service and pre-service teacher workshops which focus on enhancing instruction in mathematics, science, and technology for grades K-12.

The maximum of 60 teachers participated in a three-hour structured workshop that showed them how to use space related information in the classroom with their students.

Each of the workstations featured networked CD-ROM equipped multi-media computers, a video duplication center to copy NASA videotapes, and a cellular telephone and modem.

Local superintendents and faculty from area high schools, colleges and universities were invited to attend.

Drake receives \$11,000 in software

Several drafting and design technology students from J.F. Drake State Technical College were recently trained to test the latest Intergraph Computer Aided Drafting (CAD) software package, Imagineer, before its release. As a result, the department will receive copies of the new software, valued at \$11,000.



(Wallace State photo by Tim Hernetz)

Women's Enrichment Day attracts 450

Nationally known humorist Kathleen Passanisi of St. Louis, second from right, provided an insightful and entertaining one-hour presentation on using humor to achieve wellness at Women's Enrichment Day held earlier this year at Wallace State Community College-Hanceville. In addition to Passanisi's presentation, seminars on women's health and lifestyle issues were held throughout Wallace State's 12-story Bailey Center. A luncheon and spring fashion update in the campus banquet hall capped off the event attended by more than 450 women. Former First Lady of Alabama Marsha Folsom of Cullman, second from left, introduced Passanisi and served as luncheon emcee. The event was co-sponsored by Cullman Regional Medical Center's WomenFirst. Pictured with Folsom and Passanisi are event coordinators Melinda Campbell, Wallace State director of clinical education and health linkage programs, left, and Maria Sturm, CRMC community relations coordinator, right.

ASC library offers state-of-art technology

State-of-the-art technology and books -- North Alabama's newest library has opened its doors at Athens State College.

The \$4 million building offers users the latest in technology from computerized cataloging to Internet access. ASC students will have available more than 15 Pentium computers. In addition to the Internet, approximately 16 North Alabama libraries will be electronically connected. The 34,000 square foot building will house the college's 92,000 books and 300 periodicals.

"This library is equipped for the 21st century," said Dr. Robert Burkhardt, director of the library. "It offers new technology and also the space for traditional library services such as study and read-

ing areas."

It is the first free-standing library in the college's 174-year history. The previous library was located in historic Founders Hall. The library is the first new construction on the Athens State campus in nearly 30 years. The last significant building project was the completion of Sandridge Hall in 1967.

The library includes group study areas and will eventually house the college's historical archives. It is ADA accessible.

Architecturally, the two-story building is highlighted by a cupola which provides natural light throughout the building. The cupola is historically significant because one was previously on Sanders Hall on the Athens State campus.

J.F. Drake conducts computer workshop

J.F. Drake State Technical College recently conducted computer training classes for several employees from their adopted school, Colonial Hills Elementary School.

More than 30 employees were instructed in the latest Microsoft Office software: Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, and Powerpoint; Windows 95; and the Internet. The classes were taught by Freddy Killen, computer specialist, of the Space and Strategic Defense Command.

"The classes were designed to enhance the computer skills of the staff, teachers and administrators," stated Bethany Clem, Drake drafting and design instructor, who coordinated the classes. Clem's active involvement on the Colonial Hills' Technology Advisory Committee prompted her to initiate the computer training project. The computer training was funded from a portion of a \$10,000 grant the school received as a result of Clem's leadership on the school's advisory board. All class participants received a certificate of completion and one continuing education unit credit.



Ray

Dean honored

The Alabama College System Deans of Student Affairs Association has appointed Mattie Ray to the association's position of secretary/treasurer. Ray is dean of students at Bessemer State Technical College. She has more than 25 years of experience in education, including teaching at the junior high/middle school, high school and postsecondary levels.

Brasher earns 3 appointments

Dr. Joe Propst Brasher, professor of education at Athens State College, recently earned three new appointments with Kappa Delta Pi, the international honor society for education.

Dr. Brasher is a member of the honor society's conference committee, serves on the 1996-98 Kappa Delta Pi Record editorial review panel, and reviews the organization's counselor scholarships for the 1997-98 academic year.

He is a member of the Athens State College Faculty Senate, Honors and Awards Committee, and School of Education Technology Committee.

Southern Union goes the distance

After months of planning, purchasing system components, and installing equipment, distance learning is a reality on the Wadley and Opelika campuses of Southern Union State Community College. The offering of Physics 213 via the Southern Union Educational Network (SUENET) during Fall Quarter 1996 made history by being the first interactive class to be delivered at the college.

Interactive television links the Wadley campus with the Opelika campus, permitting students to gather in Wadley and interactively participate in a class as it originates in Opelika. Steps are under way to purchase and install distance learning equipment on the Valley campus to link to SUENET.

Southern Union's distance learning program is funded in part through the U.S. Department of Education's Title III program. According to Steve Spratlin, Title III coordinator, SUENET will be advantageous to students who, due to other responsibilities and commitments, have difficulty scheduling classes. Matt Purcell, a sophomore from Carrollton, Georgia, attended on the Wadley campus. "Had it not been for the offering of this physics class on the Wadley campus, I would not be at Southern Union," he said. "I needed the class to transfer to Auburn, but I would not be able to drive all the way from Carrollton to Opelika to take this one class."

During a recent professional development workshop for faculty, Southern Union's distance learning coordinator Bill Hearn demonstrated aspects of the system. He stressed to faculty the convenience and ease of teaching using SUENET. "This may be a bold way to put it," he said, "but we are facing an urgent need to professionally prepare to utilize computer and video-based instructional technology. However, there's really very little difference in this method of teaching vs. traditional methods of teaching."

Kickoff visit a success

Wallace Community College Selma has started preparing for the 1999 reaccreditation visit from the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Anthony Turner, English instructor at WCCS, is director of the self-study effort.

Dr. John Dwyer of the Commission on Colleges recently visited the campus to kick off the self-study process. Dwyer defined the self-study process as "Quality Control through Peer Review." He met with faculty, staff, and local community members.

According to WCCS president Dr. Julius Brown, Dwyer was pleased with the progress the campus had made.

Bevill State administrators earn doctoral degrees

Three members of the Bevill State Community College administration recently completed their defense of dissertations and were awarded the doctoral degrees in Administration in Higher Education.

Dr. Carolyn Johnson completed her doctoral degree requirements and received her award from the University of Alabama in August. Dr. Johnson is the dean of development at Bevill State Community College.

Dr. Devin Stephenson completed his doctoral degree requirements and received his award from the University of Alabama in January. Dr. Stephenson is the dean of students at Bevill State Community College.

Dr. Camilla Benton completed her doctoral degree requirements and received her award from the University of Alabama in February. Dr. Benton is the executive assistant to the president at Bevill State Community College.

Food service program earns accreditation

The American Culinary Federation Educational Institute has awarded a three-year accreditation to Bishop State Community College's Commercial Food Service program at the college's Carver campus. Bishop State is now one of 150 schools in the nation to be accredited by the institute.

The accreditation is a volunteer action by the institute that requires that the curriculum, faculty, facilities, resources, support staff, and organizational structure meet quality standards.



AATC director of enrollment management recognized

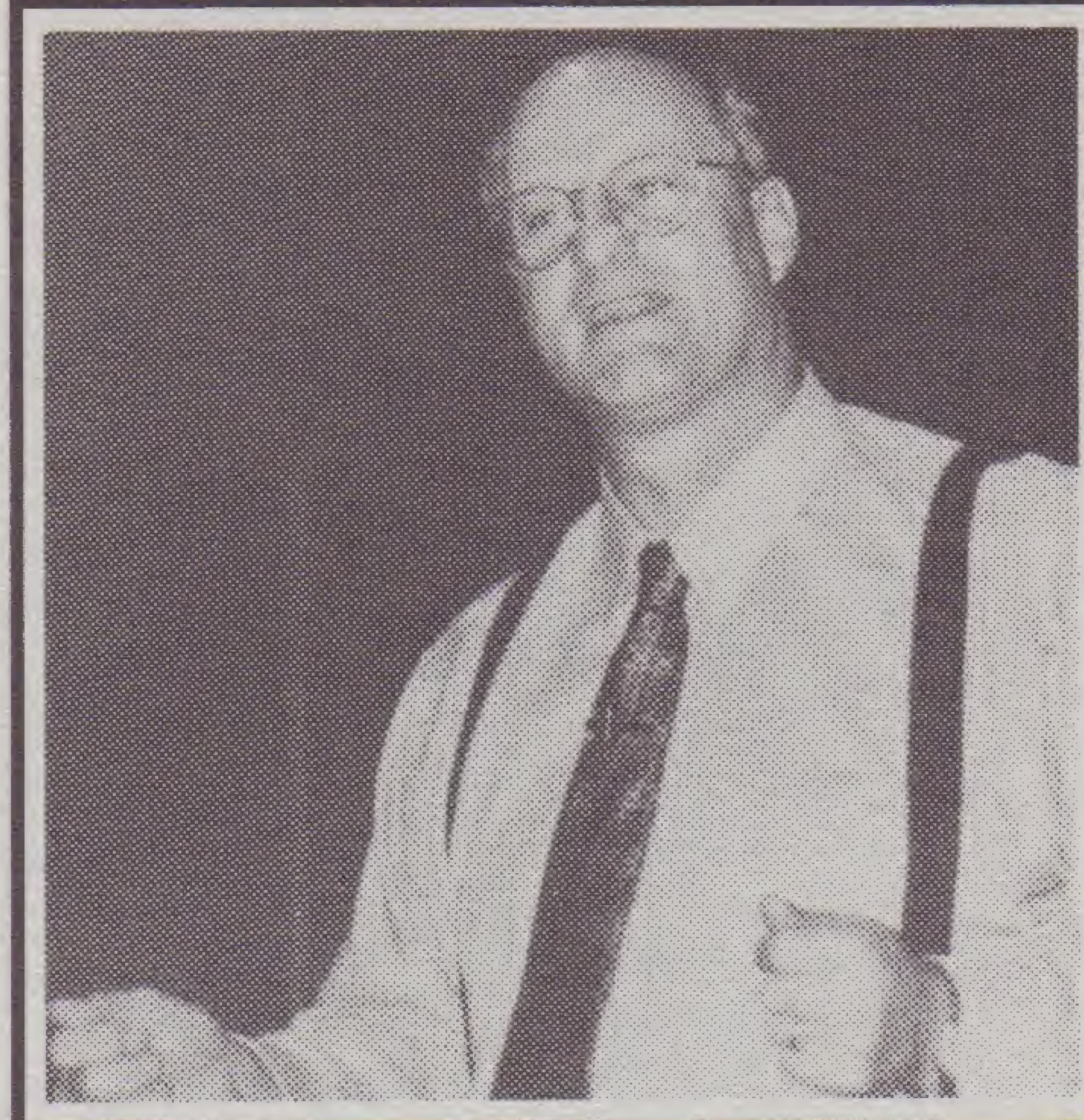
Kathy Davis, director of enrollment management at Alabama Aviation and Technical College, was selected "Communicator of the Year" by the Alabama College System Public Relations Association. Above, she receives a plaque from Doug Freeland.



ACSPRA executive committee installed

The 1996-97 Executive Committee members for the Alabama College System Public Relations Association (ACSPRA) were installed at the Alabama college Association's annual convention in November. Members are, from left, Member-At-Large Geri Albright of Lawson State Community College; Secretary Vickye Hester of J.F. Drake State Technical College; Ex-Officio Member Keron Forte of the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education; Treasurer Alesia Stuart of Reid State Technical College; Immediate Past President Doug Freeland of Alabama Industrial Development Training; President Laura Salmon of Gadsden State Community College; Member-At-Large Kathy Davis of Alabama Aviation and Technical College; Publicity Chair Steve Spratlin of Southern Union State Community College; and President-Elect Herb Jordan of Bishop State Community College. ASCPRA strives to enhance the image and promote awareness and public perception of The Alabama College System.

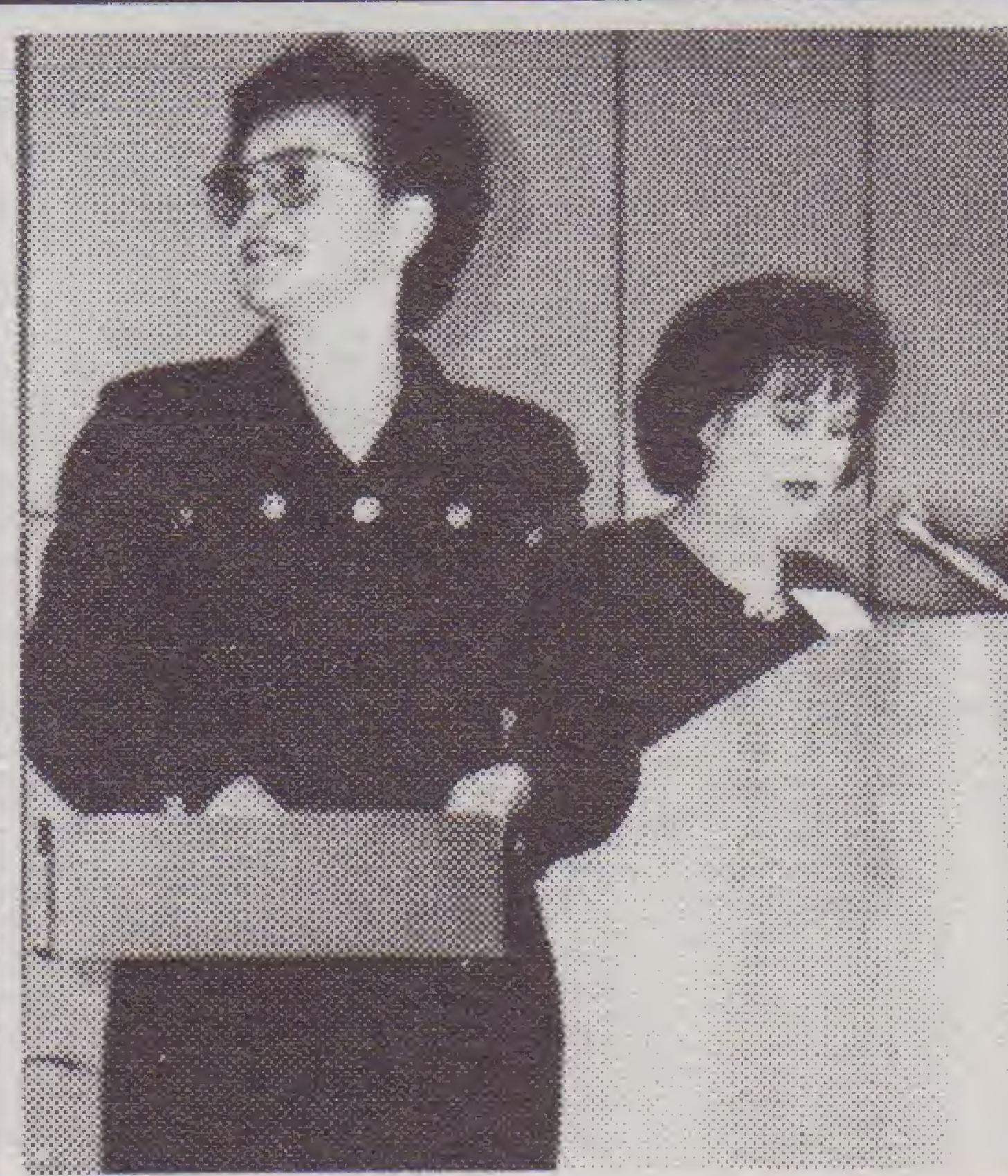
aca convention '96



Above, Dr. Craig Pace gives keynote address; below, Dr. Ethel Hall, vice president, State Board of Education, right, spends a working break talking with Dr. Fred Gainous, chancellor, left, and Dr. Jorge Kuzmich, vice chancellor for instructional and student support services, center.



At top, Chancellor's Award winners Dr. Grace McWhorter, Dr. Carmine Ruocco, Dr. Gary Green and Ms. Judy Holland pose with Chancellor Fred Gainous; above center, from left, Dr. Stephen Covington and Dr. Belle Wheelan, keynote speakers, with Dr. Perry Ward; at right, Charles Cook, left, and June Hester announce door prize winners; far right, Dr. Mike Bailey, right, chats with Mr. Bradley Byrne.





Above, Jane Boos handles evaluations for convention sessions; at left, Mr. Tom Bevill, with his wife, center, and Dr. Ethel Hall, vice president, Alabama State Board of Education, receives special recognition for his many contributions to and efforts on behalf of the Alabama College System throughout his career.

At top, student entertainers highlighted most sessions of the convention; at left center, 1997 Alabama College Association President Dr. Martha Allen presents appreciation plaque to 1996 President Dr. Ed Meadows; at right, State Board Forum was one of the most highly rated programs at the convention and included, from left, Mrs. Stephanie Bell, Dr. Ethel Hall, Dr. Mary Jane Caylor, Mrs. Sandra Ray, and Mr. Bradley Byrne.



Preparing Individuals for Global Challenges

Peavy to attend (TC)² program

Karla Peavy of Central Alabama Community College is one of six educators from colleges and universities throughout the nation to be selected by Textile/Clothing Technology Corporation ([TC]²) in Raleigh, N.C. for a five-week faculty fellowship. Peavy teaches Textile and Apparel Technology at CACC and is the liaison between the college and the Center for Textile and Apparel Technology.

[TC]² serves the apparel industry with one of the largest research and development programs in the country. The faculty fellowship allows educators to retool their skills and learn of the latest in equipment, technology, and techniques for the industry through seminars and field trips.

Seminar topics include methods engineering, simulation, product costing, time study, quick response, and ergonomics. The Apparel Education Committee of the American Apparel Manufacturing Association selects the educators to participate. [TC]² sponsors cover the costs of transportation, lodg-



Peavy ing, and seminars as well as awarding each participant a \$1000 stipend.

Peavy has an undergraduate degree from Auburn University in textile management and technology, a master's degree in apparel production, and will begin work on a Ph.D. in textile science in the fall.

Lawson hosts QEM conference

Lawson State Community College hosted the Regional Presidents' Technology Conference of the Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network earlier in March in the Distance Learning Center in the W. Fred Horn High Technology Building. Approximately 75 presidents of minority institutions in Alabama and other Southern states met and focused on the current status of and future plans for technology on the participating campuses. Presenters included representatives from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez.

The common goal of QEM is to ensure that students have the strong academic, research and technical knowledge and skills they will need to be successful at the next educational level or in the workplace.

The Quality Education for Minorities (QEM) Network was established in July 1990 as a non-profit organization dedicated to improving education for minorities throughout the nation.

Workforce 2000 article published

The ERIC Clearinghouse on Adult, Career, and Vocational Education, sponsored by the Office of Educational Research and Improvement in the U.S. Department of Education, recently published the document "Writing Curriculum for the Workplace" in its database and microfiche bank. The article is coauthored by Susan Steck, Wanda Flowers, and Sharon Ellis of Enterprise State Junior College and Phillip Johnson of MacArthur State Technical College.

The article explains the curriculum development process used by the Workforce 2000 Partnership, a network of industries and educational institutions that provide training in communication, computation, and creative thinking to employees in the textile, apparel, and

carpet industries in 15 plants in Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina.

The partnership's model for curriculum development begins with a comprehensive needs analysis which is described in the article. Next, the elements of an effective workplace curriculum and how to sequence the learning activities are described. The article also emphasizes methods to include the workers in evaluating their learning progress.

Attached to the article is a sample curriculum guide for a lesson on understanding the employee handbook, the chart for sequencing learning activities, a sample learning page for the worker to document progress, and a bibliography of five resources pertaining to curriculum development for adult learners.

Shelton exceeds campaign goal

Dr. Tom Umphrey, president of Shelton State Community College, recently announced that the college had exceeded its capital campaign goal of \$1.2 million.

Umphrey said to date gifts and pledges totaling \$1,343,398 had been donated to the college, including cash and equipment as well as in-kind gifts and services.

More than 90 percent of the gifts came from individuals and companies in West Alabama.

Funds will be used to finance a portion of the \$44 million needed for the new Shelton campus.



Holloway

Sparks instructor named good citizen

Katrina Holloway, office information systems instructor and cooperative education director at Sparks State Technical College, was named one of eleven Good Citizens of 1996 by the *Eufaula Tribune*. Each year the paper publishes a list of good citizens selected as a result of contributions to the community.

During 1996, Holloway served as chair of Eufaula's annual Indian Summer Arts and Crafts Festival. She is also an active member of the Eufaula Jaycees and frequently works on other Eufaula events such as the Lake Eufaula Boat Races and Annual Pilgrimage Tour of Homes.

Wallace students set impressive record

The first graduates of Wallace State-Hanceville medical assistant and occupational therapy assistant programs set an impressive record for future students to follow. Every graduate who took the national certification exams passed.

The medical assistant program and the occupational therapy assistant program earned accreditation on the first application.



Enterprise State instructors named to Who's Who Educational Communications, Inc. recently announced the addition of six Enterprise State Junior College instructors to the fourth edition of "Who's Who Among America's Teachers" for 1996. Those named include, from left, Dr. Rebecca Brown Armstrong, Dr. Scott Randall Smith, Dr. Robert C. Lewis, Dr. Jack Porter Oden, and Mrs. Charla Spears Adkison. Also named was Mrs. Cindy Alexander Smith. The teachers included in this listing are recommended for recognition by former students.

Newell to attend specialist training

Lynn Newell, Ayers State Technical College's child development instructor and displaced homemaker grant coordinator, has been chosen to attend the National Council for Resource Development Specialist Training Program (RDSTP) in Washington, D.C.

Mrs. Newell was one of only two people from the Alabama College System selected to attend the program.

The specialist training program provides in-depth information about resource development including public and private funding, working with boards, writing grant proposals, and staffing and automating development office processes. The participants are also able to develop strong networks of contacts with each other.

As a result of Mrs. Newell's efforts, Ayers State received several federal grants that help special student populations in the community. Ayers State is



Newell

proud of Mrs. Newell's dedication to professional development which enhances the college's resource development opportunities.



Chairs examine dual roles as administrators and faculty Reid State chairs attend academy

Reid State Technical College department chairs from four departments represented the college at the sixth annual international conference for chairs and deans February 12 through 15 in Reno, Nevada.

Attendees were Elaine Martindale, cosmetology chair; Carol Byrd, general education chair; Evelyn Long, office administration chair; and Pat Gwin, practical nursing chair. This year's conference was titled *Walking the Tightrope: The Balance Between Innovation and Leadership*.

The National Community College

Chair Academy (NCCCA) was founded to address leadership training for department chairs. Created in 1990 for the purpose of advancing academic leadership for community and technical college chairs, deans, and other organizational leaders, the academy was formed in direct response to the acutely limited leadership training opportunities for community and technical college department and division chairs.

The chair academy focuses on preparing these academic leaders for their dual role as manager/administrator and faculty member/advocate.

Nicholson participates in workshop

K.W. Nicholson of Central Alabama Community College participated in the workshop "Constructing and Integrating Microcomputer Simulations in Introductory College-Level Physics Courses" March 6-8 at Bainbridge College in Bainbridge, Ga.

Participants included 20 community college physics educators representing colleges in California, New Mexico, Texas, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. The workshop allowed each par-

ticipant to gain experience and insight by being exposed to a variety of well-designed physics simulations and tools. Those attending focused on the creation of good simulations and how to blend these into an effective, active learning environment in order to help students achieve a stronger understanding of physics.

The workshop was one of a series designed to meet the challenges of changing from a traditional lecture approach to active learning strategies for physics.

Lab named in memory of Walter L. Allen, III

The Alabama State Board of Education, at its January meeting, voted unanimously to approve the resolution naming the Dental Technologies Laboratory at H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College as the Dr. Walter L. Allen, III, Dental Technologies Laboratory.

A native Alabamian, Allen, a graduate of the University of Alabama, Birmingham Southern College, Combat Medical School, and Trenholm State Technical College, was the husband of Elizabeth Allen, and the father of two sons and three stepsons.

Allen was a practicing dentist in Montgomery. He served as a member of the state Board of Dental Examiners, having served as president in 1978-79; he was a member of the Montgomery County Dental Society and served as its president; he served as a member of the State Board Committee of Public Health, and he served as a consulting member of the U.S. Public Health Services and U.S. Bureau of Prisons.

Allen realized the need of millions of citizens who, having lost their natural teeth, could not wear false teeth because of lack of support. He and his partner-in-science pioneered the process of dental super structure implantation, which now enjoys world-wide fame with patients from across the country, Africa, and Europe.

Allen for many years served as Director of Dental Laboratories Technology at H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College until his retirement on August 31, 1996.

The recognition was presented posthumously. Allen died Nov. 8, 1996, after a brief bout with Lou Gehrig's Disease. His wife, friends, family, and faculty, staff, and students from H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College, were in attendance for the recognition ceremony.

State, city officials announce partnerships with Calhoun

Dr. Mary Jane Caylor, State Board of Education member, and officials with Calhoun Community College, Huntsville City Schools, the North Alabama Science Center, and the City of Huntsville recently announced partnerships for the development and use of Calhoun's Huntsville/Cummings Research Park campus.

The announcement was a follow-up to action by the State Board of Education in January approving agreements to formalize the partnership between Calhoun and the three groups.

According to Calhoun Community College President Dr. Richard Carpenter, the college has entered into agreements with these groups to house the city's new high-tech high school, the science center, and the Business Technology Development Center, a high-tech, small business incubator to serve Huntsville and Madison County.

Dr. Caylor said that having all three projects at one site is a unique situation that should help Huntsville continue to market itself as a haven for high-tech business and education.

"We believe this is the only one of its kind," said Caylor, a former Huntsville City Schools superintendent.

Calhoun and Huntsville City Schools have formed a partnership to develop the New Century Technology Demonstration High School, sharing current college classroom and laboratory space and jointly developing a library and student

center.

According to officials with Huntsville City Schools, students accepted into the program will work with officials of local companies and organizations such as Adtran and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration on high-tech projects.

The college and the North Alabama Science Center have entered into a synergistic partnership which will provide the center with space for the development of a hands-on Science Center and the college with facilities and resources for science and technology education unsurpassed in two-year colleges.

In 1995 Calhoun Community College, with grant support from ADECA, completed a study of the feasibility of a business incubator to serve the Huntsville area and began discussions with the City of Huntsville, the Huntsville Chamber of Commerce, NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, UAH and Alabama A&M to develop an incubator with broad community support and involvement.

"These partnerships with Huntsville City Schools, the North Alabama Science Center, and the City of Huntsville represent the epitome of the kind of relationship in which a true community college should be involved," said Carpenter.

"Calhoun is extremely excited about the potential these partnerships hold for providing exceptional educational and training services to the citizens of this area."

Bevill commits to distance learning

As part of its commitment to providing modern, accessible and quality education, Bevill State Community College will be implementing an Interactive Distance Learning Center on each of its three main campuses so students at each will be able to actively participate in a single class setting. The centers will be used for college instruction, conferences,

workshops, and seminars for local, regional and national audiences.

"This project is but another step Bevill State is taking to assure its students the highest standards of quality education," said Dr. Harold Wade, president.

The facilities are expected to assist in attracting additional business, industry, and commerce into the college service area.



Jordan

Southern Union VP receives state award

Dr. Joanne S. Jordan, vice president of Southern Union Community College, received the 1996 Administrator of the Year Award presented by the Alabama Association of College Administrators and the Alabama Association for Women in Education (AACA/AAWE) to a college or university administrator in the state.

The Administrator of the Year award is presented in two categories -- two-year and four-year college/university -- to the college or university administrator who has shown distinguished professional administrative leadership during the year for which the award is granted.

Award received

The Community Affairs Committee at Faulkner State Community College recently received a Certificate of Appreciation from Who's Who in Long Term Care in Alabama during a presentation in Montgomery. Gail McInnish of Oakwood Nursing Home nominated the committee for its continuing involvement with the residents of Oakwood and the Veteran's Home.



Merritt and Schrushy with JSCC students Kristie Kelly and Pam Nettles at reception after naming of Scrushy Campus

Jefferson State Scrushy Campus named

At a recent State Board of Education meeting in Montgomery, Jefferson State's Shelby campus was officially named the Richard M. Scrushy Campus in honor of Richard Scrushy's contributions to Jefferson State.

HealthSouth CEO Richard Scrushy, a 1974 Jefferson State graduate, donated the majority of funds for the land at the Valleydale campus.

"Richard represents the kind of con-

tribution a community college can make to the success of individuals," said JSCC President Judy Merritt.

Scrushy's HealthSouth Corporation is the first healthcare company to operate facilities in all 50 states and is the largest healthcare company in the world geographically.

"If it hadn't been for Jefferson State, I wouldn't be where I am today," said Schrushy. "Access is everything."

Gadsden selected for national project

Gadsden State Community College was selected as one of 14 from among about 100 applicants to participate in Phi Theta Kappa's Improving Science and Technology Education at Community Colleges project. The project is funded by the National Science Foundation and was being conducted in cooperation with the American Association of Community Colleges.

A GSCC team participated in the National Science and Technology Education Conference I in Washington, D.C., March 8 to 11. Team members include Dr. John Simpson, GSCC area of science, mathematics and engineering director;

Dr. Mark Meade, University of Alabama at Birmingham and Gadsden State Community College biology instructor, and Dr. Susan Williams, GSCC mathematics instructor.

Mentoring services before and during the 10-month period following the national conference will assist the college in developing and implementing its Action Plan to strengthen teaching and learning of science, mathematics, engineering and technology on GSCC campuses. Also, at least one member of the team will participate in Phi Theta Kappa's fall National Science and Technology Education Conference II.

Training program benefits Selma

A successful pre-employment training program often is described as a three-way win for the company, the trainees and the community and state. Such is the case with Bush Hog Corporation, a farm implement manufacturer with two Selma locations.

In 1993, Bush Hog added 150 to the company's workforce to meet production demands.

To handle its expansion, Bush Hog called on Alabama Industrial Development Training, and began pre-employment programs for welders, conventional machine operators and assembly personnel. The first training program began in October 1993, and those graduates were hired in December of that year.

Bush Hog met expansion needs through two avenues. The AIDT preemployment program put trainees through 24 hours of classroom work in mathematics, blueprint reading, precision measurement and safety. Those who completed that part of the program moved on to 80 hours of welding training or 40 hours of conventional machine operations training.

Bush Hog also hired some employees directly. The main difference was that those hired through the AIDT program were generally unskilled and those hired direct had experience in some skill areas.

Two years later, 70 percent of those who completed the AIDT pre-employment programs between April 1993 and April 1995 were still on the job. Only 22 percent of those hired directly were still with the company, said Lee Tate, Bush Hog personnel manager.

"The new employees were more motivated, and they simply had more desire than those we got off the street," Tate said.

Many who participated in the training program have already been promoted, Tate said.

AATC hosts SACS

Alabama Aviation and Technical College (AATC) recently hosted a reaffirmation of accreditation team of nine educators and a representative from the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).

AATC will receive formal notification of the Commission's decision concerning reaffirmation at the SACS annual meeting in December 1997. Nevertheless, college personnel are encouraged by the outcome of the peer review process.

AATC was first accredited by the Commission on Colleges of SACS in June 1991 and was authorized to award the Associate in Applied Science degree.

PR awards earned

Wallace State Community College-Hanceville won five top awards in marketing and promotion during the Alabama College System Public Relations Association Pyramid Awards at the organization's fifth annual convention.

Wallace State took first place in Best College Promotional Video, Best Class Schedule and Best Direct Mail Piece. The five-minute promotional video captured Best of Show from 149 entries in 22 categories. In addition, Wallace State received the Award of Achievement in Newswriting.

Calhoun technology division celebrates 50th anniversary

Recently, Dr. Richard Carpenter, president of Calhoun Community College, announced that Calhoun's Technology Division is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. Theme for the celebration is "Calhoun Community College: Celebratin 50 Years of Progress Through technology and Diversity."

The college was founded in 1947 as the Tennessee Valley State Technical School. Carpenter is the third president of the college.

GSCC hosts symposium

Emphasis of Voice and Viewpoints, the second annual international symposium on language, literature, history and culture was held in February at Gadsden State Community College. The topic for the symposium was America between the world wars. Presenters from Brazil were featured along with those from Alabama's institutions of higher education.

Rita Crider, GSCC coordinator of International Student Affairs, developed the week-long event highlighting cultural exchange between American and Brazilian teachers and students. Organizing committee members from GSCC were Charles Hill, Beryl Odom, Sandra Ray, Brenda Crowe, Paula Ross and Earlene Stanfield.



Participants gather during a break

CACC instructors attend symposium

Central Alabama Community College faculty members Dana Posey and Pat Jenkins recently were selected to present papers at the GSCC international symposium (see related story at left).

Posey's paper was entitled "Pearl S. Buck Comes Home: An Analysis of The Time Is Noon," an American novel which offers valuable perspective on America during the inter-war period of

the '20s and '30s.

Jenkins' paper was entitled "The Halcyon Days of Walter Anderson" and concerned the life and art of the Gulf Coast naturalist and artist as he progressed through his stylistic development toward a focus on natural themes.

The symposium offered a wide range of interesting papers and discussions on the arts and humanities, ranging from the blues, to T.S. Eliot.

Bevill theatre group honored for drama

The American Association of Community Theatre recently honored the Bevill Community Theatre for its touring production of the Holocaust drama *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. The theatrical group is based at Bevill's Hamilton Campus.

The Bevill Community Theatre placed second in the AACT/Fest 96-97 and was praised by association members and the Alabama Conference of Theatre and Speech.

By tour's end, it is estimated that more than 4,000 will have attended a performance of the play.

Sparks instructors assist peers in using technology

With budget cuts severely limiting their professional development funds, the faculty and staff of Sparks State Technical College turned to their peers for computer training during fall quarter.

In addition to several workshops presented at the college by speakers ranging from a local school superintendent to a member of the Alabama Ethics Commission, SSTC faculty and staff shared techniques for capitalizing on the technology available at the college. Four SSTC instructors presented computer application workshops during a week of professional development in September and another in December.

In September, Sparks faculty and staff attended two demonstration workshops: "Computer Skills for Educators" by Chris Purvis and "Using the Internet" by Frank Barefield. The response to these workshops was so great that staff requested additional hands-on training.

Thus, in December, SSTC's faculty and staff attended two more workshops on using computers to improve work or efficiency.

ASC dedicates van

Athens State College's Science in Motion Program got a boost when it commissioned a biology van on Jan. 31. This second van allows the ASC program to further serve high school biology students throughout North Alabama, according to Virginia Hamm, ASC project director.

Athens State already has a chemistry van which provides experiments and learning opportunities to students at eight city and county school systems. The new van allows the program to expand into biological lab activities, including studies of human physiology, bacteria and photosynthesis.



Harris, left, and Retsinas attend open house/ribbon cutting Drake partners with housing complex

J. F. Drake State Technical College has partnered with a low-to-moderate income housing apartment complex to open a computer training center for its residents. Drake personnel set up and maintain the support services needed to operate the computer center which will offer job-search, work retention programs, recreational activities and counseling services. Housing residents will use the computer training center to gain employable skills.

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) approved rent increases for moderate-income families to help pay for the center. A recent open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony for the computer center drew many local and state governmental officials, state HUD representatives and special guest speaker Nicolas Retsinas, Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development of Washington, D.C.

Drake's development director, Harold Batts, was instrumental in developing the partnership with Oxford Properties, the apartment management company, and HUD.

A renovated apartment complex is being used for the center and a director's office. The computer stations house Pentium computers where Windows 95, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel and other Microsoft software packages will be taught.

Private businesses have also assisted in this unique partnership by providing computer software instructors, high speed Internet access, design and graphics support, and signs for the center.

GSCC, Jax State go on-line with SPEEDE

Gadsden State Community College and Jacksonville State University are first in the state to go online with SPEEDE--Standardization of Postsecondary Electronic Education Data Exchange, said Bryan Stone, GSCC registrar and Alabama Association of Collegiate Regis-

trars and Academic Officers president.

This technology has been in use in business for 12-15 years. SPEEDE allows for faster, better, more-secure-than-FAX transmission of transcripts. Stone said expansion can include admissions and financial aid data at a later time.

Woods addresses NCATC conference

Jacqueline Woods, liaison for community colleges at the U.S. Department of Education, presented the proposed federal tax credit for families of two-year college students in the opening general session of the National Coalition of Advanced Technology Centers (NCATC) Fall Conference, "Reinventing Advanced Technology Centers—New Partnerships, Technologies and Delivery Strategies."

The keynote address of the conference was delivered by U.S. Representative Tom Bevill for whom the Bevill Manufacturing Technology Center at Gadsden State Community College is named.

The Bevill Center and Gadsden State hosted the national conference, which emphasized hands-on implementation and case studies. Leaders in technology from across the United States presented seminars defining successful partnerships between industry and community colleges.

Woods has served as vice chancellor for external affairs at City Colleges of Chicago, vice president for program and policy for the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges, and director of the American College Testing Program. She has held a variety of administrative and instructional positions at Long Beach Community College District, Kalamazoo Valley Community College, Institute for the Development of Creative Child Care, and Michigan Cancer



Woods
Institute.

The conference offered participants three days of powerful sessions, including presentations by Karl H. Sauer, training director, Mercedes-Benz, USA, and Linda Hart, Governor's "School-to-Work" Liaison.

The Bevill Manufacturing Technology Center is one of the founding members of NCATC, an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges since 1988. NCATC is dedicated to promoting proven advanced technology in U.S. industries through community, technical and junior colleges.

Thompson presents Partners in Change award to Rankin

Stafford L. Thompson, president of Enterprise State Junior College, recently presented the Partners in Change Award to Toby Rankin, operations manager for Big/Little Stores. The firm received recognition for helping create employment opportunities for displaced homemakers, single parents, and other women in transition.

"We are pleased to partner with a company such as this," Thompson said. "They are willing to hire graduates of our program, clearly indicating support and satisfaction with our products. This is just another example of the type of cooperation the college tends to foster within the counties it serves." Rankin had positive comments regarding Enterprise State as well.

"Big/Little is proud to participate in any program to help displaced workers," he said. "The college's training programs have proven to be worthwhile in helping these people go back to work. As the college develops programs in the future, we are ready to assist."

Linda Wilson, coordinator of ESJC's career training program, cited Big/Little as an example for the community, saying the company has set a standard by recognizing the talents mature women bring to their jobs.

Ayers State makes professional development a priority

Ayers State Technical College faculty and staff are encouraged to upgrade skills and knowledge that will improve their effectiveness through the college's professional development fund.

Ayers State has set aside a special fund whereby faculty and staff interested in pursuing additional college studies and professional development opportunities may apply for tuition and fees reimbursement. Employees have the opportunity to attend conferences, workshops and state consortium as well as continue their formal education with financial assistance. These opportunities allow faculty and staff to achieve personal goals as well as goals of the college.

Ayers State recently offered two special professional development initiatives.

All faculty and staff have taken part in a three-part video series on sexual harassment to educate them about the realities of this common and potentially devastating problem.

Computer classes were offered to faculty and staff to enhance computer literacy. The classes were offered at times convenient for the employees. Classes included Beginning and Intermediate Microsoft Word and Microsoft Excel. Faculty and staff were also given the opportunity to access instruction on new technologies in the Learning Resource Center, including specific research tools and strategies.

Owen earns national award

On Feb. 20, 1997, Northeast Alabama Community College enjoyed one of the largest announcements in its history. Randy Owen of the group Alabama and 1971 alumnus of Northeast, was named a 1997 National Outstanding Alumni Award winner by the American Association of Community Colleges. Owen is the first alumnus of a public two-year college in Alabama to receive this award.

Last year, Owen was chosen by AACC as one of six individuals representing community colleges in a poster campaign. He was also chosen by the Alabama College System for a billboard campaign for the 25th anniversary of the system. He has funded numerous scholarships over the years for students who would otherwise be unable to attend college.

LBW College earns commendation

On Jan. 27, 1997, a team of twelve visited Lurleen B. Wallace Junior College for the purpose of determining if it met the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) requirements for reaffirmation of accreditation. After a four-day peer review visit, the committee commended LBW College for its beautiful and well-maintained grounds and facilities. Committee members noted that LBW is one of the most outstanding college campuses any of them had reviewed in their SACS work. The committee made 18 recommendations of ways the college can improve.

Convention attended

The Jefferson Davis Community College's Honors Program students recently attended the Alabama Honors Convention held at Auburn University. Twenty-five JDCC honors students participated in the two-day event.



Lawson representatives accept award

NYSP recognized for performance

The National Youth Sports Program at Lawson State Community College has been selected as a meritorious program in recognition of outstanding 1996 NYSP project performance.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association on behalf of the NYSP Committee recognized the Lawson State staff for "providing all medical examinations at no cost to the program, offering exceptional instruction in 10 different sports activities and education." The committee also acknowledged Dr. Eric Green, project administrator, and Eleanor Pitts, activity director, for their outstanding leadership.

ASC prof named to commission

Dr. Tim Jones, professor of justice studies at Athens State College, has been named to the curriculum committee for the Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission.

Jones will serve a three-year term on the committee. The commission is responsible for setting standards and requirements for police officers, state

troopers and marine police in the state.

Jones has been a member of the ASC faculty since 1985. He and faculty members Dave Erwin and Bruce Thomas recently developed minimum physical ability standards for new officers in training. The new standards, which were adopted by the commission, must be passed by an applicant before becoming an officer.

Alabama Southern shifts its focus

Alabama Southern Community College is shifting the orientation of the college from an environment focused on teaching to one focused on learning.

Beginning with the college's Fall 1996 orientation class, a Student Success Battery is administered to all incoming freshmen. In addition to testing abilities for

placement, the battery also includes a personality assessment, a learning styles inventory, a right/left brain dominance indicator, and a multiple intelligence predictor. Results will be provided to both students and faculty to help both understand how students learn, process information, and interact with others.